Year	Petrol(%)	Petroleum Products(%)
1992-93	103.2	85.5
1993-94	100.2	84.0
1994-95*	99.7	80.8

*Provisional

(b) The demand projections for the year 2001 have not yet been finalised.

(c) Measures taken by the Government to increase crude oil production include:—

(1) Development of new fields and additional development of existing fields.

(2) Implementation of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) schemes and extending some of the EOR scheme from pilot scale to full scale field application.

(3) Implementation of specialised technologies such as Extended Reach Drilling. Horizontal and drain hole drilling.

(4) Offering small and medium sized fields for development by the private sector, on its own and through joint ventures with the national oil companies.

(d) Government have implemented a number of schemes for conservation of petroleum products. They include replacement of low efficient furnaces with higher efficient ones, use of better pumps to reduce leakage of petroleum products, improvement in gas flare management, use of efficient machineries, design and marketing of efficient LPG/Kerosene stoves, setting up of model garages in STUs, sponsoring of R&D projects, etc.

Conservation of Indian Biological Diversities

1661. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated action to formulate and enact a legislation for the conservation of Indian biological diversities including the issues related to the ownership of the resources that originated in India and access to such genetic resources; and

(b) if so, by when a Bill to that effect is likely to be brought forward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The Government is taking measures to formulate a comprehensive legislation with regard to biodiversity. Following a series of inter-ministerial consultations and discussions with experts and NGOs the elements for the legislation have been identified. As several Central and State laws govern various aspects of biodiversity conservation, presently an exercise has been undertaken to examine the existing laws relevant to biodiversity. Consultations with sectoral Central Ministries, the State Governments and other relevant organisations would also be necessary.

America's stand on India's claim for Security Council seat

1662. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Government has taken a position against India as a permanent member of UN Council as a result of its tilt towards Pakistan; and

(b) if so, whether Government will review its decision for an Indo-US Joint Defence Initiative?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB

MUKHERJEE): (a) The US Government has stated that it favours expansion of the UN Security Council and supports Germany and Japan for permanent membership, but has taken no position on the selection process for other new members. A US State Department official has expressed the view in February 1995 that "India would theoretically be in running for a permanent seat, but that its relationship with Pakistan and the problem of Kashmir would likely be part of any discussion at the UN".

(b) As a member of the UN, the US is entitled to its views regarding restructuring and expansion of the UN Security Council. India's views on this matter are different. However, this will not prevent the expansion of Indo-US defence relations in areas of mutual benefit as envisaged in the Agreed Minute signed during the visit of US Defence Secretary, William Perry, to India in January 1995.

Incident of bomb blast in Connaught Place area in New Delhi

1663. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some incident of bomb blast has been reported in Connaught Place area of New Delhi on 20th November, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any casualty or damage to properties was reported due to this blast;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any arrests have been made in this regard;

(f) whether Government have taken some measures to ensure that such incidents are not repeated in futures; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) to (d) No, Sir. No such incident of bomb blast has been reported on 20th November, 1995. However, at about 1930 hours on 21st November, 1995 there was a bomb explosion in front of the Delhi Durbar Restaurant in New Delhi. It injured 24 persons, damaged 13 vehicles (5 of them severely), shattered the window-panes of 22 shops and damaged 11 of the shops severely. The injured persons were immediately removed to the hospital. After necessary medical treatment, the majority were discharged on that very day and the remaining on the following day.

A case under section 307/427 IPC, Section 3/4/5 of Explosive Substances Act and Section 3 of Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act was registered on 21.11.1995. Investigations made have revealed that the explosive material was packed in 15 kilogram tin container, bearing the label 'Virka' and was triggered off by a timing device. A fresh and thorough search of the spot by officials of the Crime Branch on 22.11.95 led to recovery of 22.5 cm. long 'Pencil Timer Device' from a corner of the road near the spot. It was defused by the Bomb Disposal Squad. Traces of the explosive found have tested positive for PETN (Penta Erythrolatol Tetra Nitrate), a high explosive.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) The following steps have been taken to prevent such bomb explosions in Delhi in future:—

(i) Anti-explosive precautions are being exercised at various places of popular congregation viz. Railway Stations, Airport, ISBT, important places of worship.

(ii) Surveillance has been increased.

(iii) Public Awareness compaigns have been organised through the media for the public to exercise caution from unclaimed/abandoned proberty and to report existence of suspicious material to the police promptly.